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## **Governor Announces Disaster Aid to Rusk County Sheriff's Office**

Governor Jim Doyle announced today that the Rusk County Sheriff's Department will receive disaster assistance of nearly \$138,000 to help pay for emergency protective measures in the City of Ladysmith and surrounding areas following the F3 tornado that struck the area on September 2, 2002.

Following the tornado that struck on Labor Day afternoon, law enforcement personnel from over 45 agencies around the state assisted with providing security and other emergency law enforcement services. The emergency mutual aid was used for seven days to help ensure public safety in the damaged areas. The disaster assistance of \$137,965 to the Rusk County Sheriff's Department will be used to help pay for overtime and equipment costs associated with the search and rescue, patrolling and barricading tornado damage areas, and operating the county emergency operations center.

"Law enforcement did an excellent job in protecting the public and property following the aftermath of the tornado that struck Ladysmith," Governor Doyle said. "I am pleased that we have received this federal assistance to help the Rusk County Sheriff's Department recover some of the costs associated with the emergency response."

The disaster relief was made available to impacted local governments in Rusk County under a Presidential Disaster Declaration that was issued in September. Wisconsin Emergency Management is working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency in implementing the federal disaster declaration. Under the Public Assistance Program, approved grants are 75 percent funded under FEMA, 12.5 percent by the State of Wisconsin, and the remaining costs is the applicant's share.

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